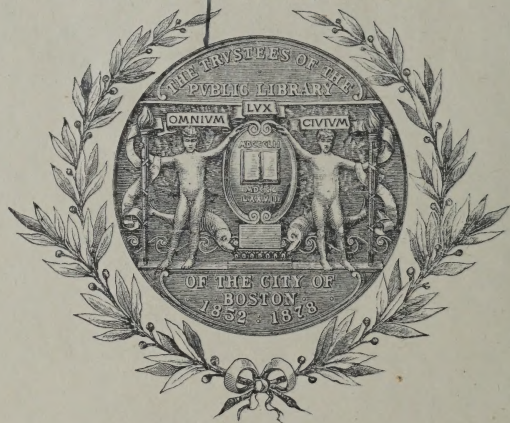


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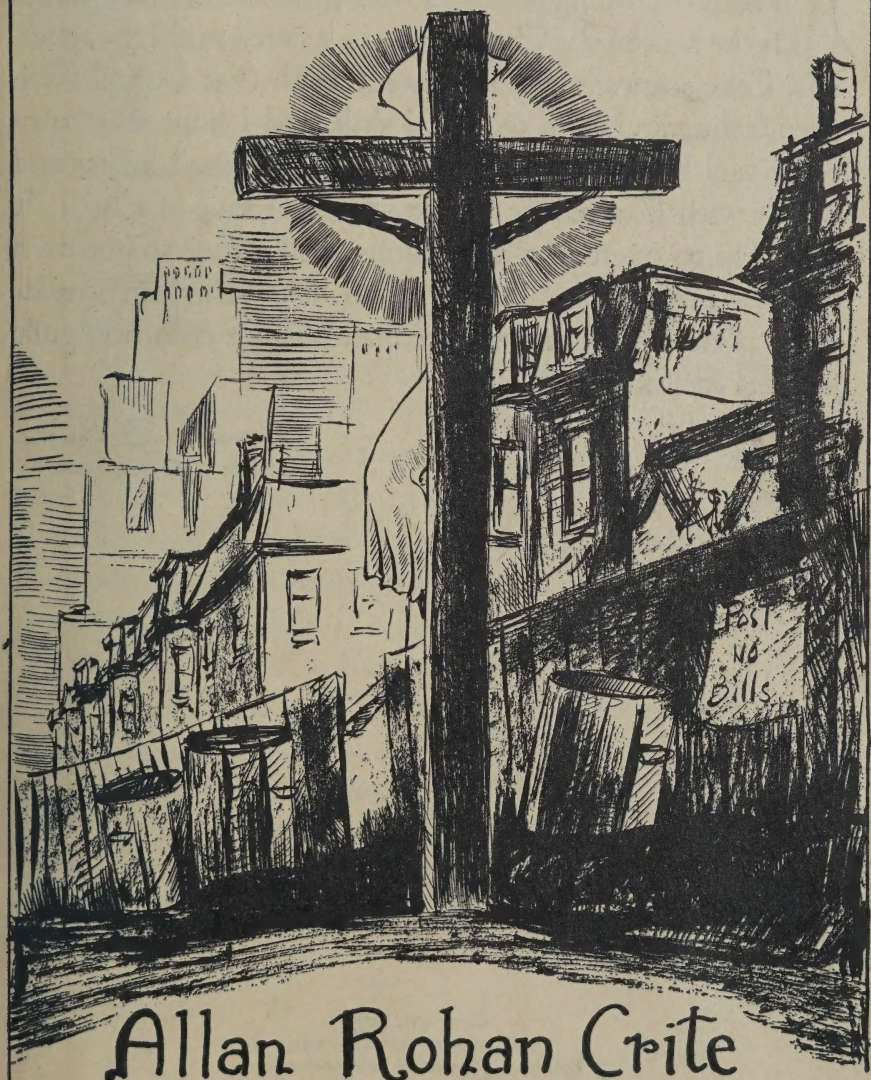
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Is It Nothing to You



Allan Rohan Crite



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Fine Arts

Allan R. Crite

April 8, 1948

THE proclaiming of the Gospel in contemporary terms is the task of the Christian artist as well as the preacher. Mr. Crite's drawings certainly set forth that Gospel with deep feeling and high technical skill, and I hope this pamphlet will have wide circulation, stirring men's hearts and minds with its message of the sacrificial love of Christ. It will help to overcome our callous indifference to our own spiritual poverty, and impel us to help others in similar unawareness of their own need, and of our common guilt in His crucifixion.

Norman B. Nash.

Bishop of Massachusetts

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Department of Social Service

Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

INTRODUCTION

IN this series of drawings I have shown the Passion of Christ against the background of our modern world. It is a pre-occupied world, a world of ordinary people, pursuing the usual tasks of everyday living. The texts from the Psalms and the Prophets are drawn, with one exception, from the liturgy of Holy Week.

“Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?” Christ addresses this cry, springing from His broken heart, to every one of us. The people in the drawings are people like ourselves from every walk of life, of different traditions and nationalities. As long as we pass Christ by unheeding, as long as we fail to put into action in ourselves and in society the full meaning of the drama of redemption, we shall suffer all the unhappiness, strife and maladjustment which plague us today. Christ appeals to us, therefore, individually and collectively, to behold and see His sorrow, the token of God’s love. As there is no sorrow like unto His sorrow, so there is no joy like the joy of the resurrection of love in the life of mankind walking in the way of Christ.

ALLAN ROHAN CRITE



THE Lord looked down from heaven upon
the children of men, to see if there were
any that did understand, and seek God.

Psalm 14, Verse 2

Our Lord stands in the midst of people selfishly absorbed in promoting their respective interests. He who is the way, the truth, and the life, who offers healing to all the ills of society, is ignored.



O TASTE, and see, how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Psalm 34, Verse 8

I would have fed them also with the finest wheat-flour; and with honey out of the stony rock would I have satisfied thee.

Psalm 81, Verse 17

O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee?
O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away. . . . For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

Hosea, Chapter 6, Verses 4 and 6

Christ offers the blessed sacrament of His Body and Blood to a heedless world. The clash and confusion of commerce and secular business drown out His offer of the Peace of God, a peace available for everyday living.



HE is despised and rejected of men : a man
of sorrows, and acquainted with grief :
and we hid as it were our faces from him : he
was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Isaiah, Chapter 53, Verse 3

If they should fall away . . . they crucify to
themselves the Son of God afresh, and put
Him to an open shame.

Hebrews, Chapter 6, Verse 6

As Jesus was condemned to die and sent to the cross nineteen centuries ago,
so He is condemned today where we ignore Him and reject Him. So He is
crucified anew in all the hatred, brutality, and crime of our society.



SURELY he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows : yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities : the chastisement of our peace was upon him ; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way : and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah, Chapter 53, Verses 4 to 6

Jesus carries His cross in the midst of mankind's misery, yet men are so absorbed in their own distress that they fail to notice Him. He is carrying His cross through garbage littered alleyways, past firetraps called houses, unfit for human use. Our souls, too, have their dark slums, for all of us are guilty in the breakdown of human relations which make such evils possible, and there too Christ carries His cross in mute appeal.



IS it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?
Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like
unto my sorrow, which is done unto me.

Lamentations, Chapter 1, Verse 12

As Christ offers Himself upon the cross men pass Him by, unconscious of the tremendous act of redemption enacted in their midst.



HE was oppressed, and he was afflicted. . . .
He was taken from prison and from judgment : and who shall declare his generation, for he was cut off out of the land of the living ; for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death ; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him ; he hath put him to grief : when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed . . . he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah, Chapter 53, Verses 7 to 10 and 12

As Jesus' body is made ready for the tomb, society still passes Him by, concerned with its pleasures, heedless of its duties, the fulfillment of which would bring peace and joy beyond all understanding.

Additional copies may be obtained from the

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